

October 19, 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD.

Subject: Liaison visit by Capt. Heard, USN, Comdr. Hindmarsch, USNR
and Col. Dales, USMC.

1. Call from the General's office notified me that the naval party had arrived on the post. At about 1100, Gen. Banfill's office called and said that the General and the visitors were on their way to my office.
2. When the party arrived, they were shown the proposed organization charts. They wanted to know how we proposed handling the interior sorting and translation of incoming material. This was gone into in some detail.
3. They then wanted to know how we intended to get the documents from the field. It was explained that an army directive had already gone out to Army Theaters of Operations requesting them to send in those documents which they were finished with from the point of view of local interest. Capt. Heard thought that it would be difficult to convince the theaters out there to give up any of their prerogatives in the examination of the documents. It was explained that it was not the intention to ask them to alter any of their present procedures but rather to accept anything they would release for our processing and on the basis of the results and material sent out to the theaters from the research done here, it was contemplated to convince the theaters of the advisability of a convergence of intelligence in the States. The results of such a convergence of an intelligence picture by the pooling of all documents were gone into. As an illustration, the movement of Japanese forces from one theater into the other was shown as an instance of the necessity of the convergence of documents.
4. Comdr. Hindmarsch expressed the opinion that if MIRS were to handle all the documents from the theaters in the Pacific, then it would have to have a total of about 1500 men. It was pointed out to him that since all theaters in the Pacific were now doing War Department and Navy Dept. level work on top of normal theater exploitation, we have in effect four times the necessary number of men involved and that the eventual assumption of responsibility for top level work by MIRS would permit a redistribution of available linguists.
5. At the final conversation in the General's office, Capt. Heard said that the entire idea of Navy participation sprang from the original scheme proposed by Gen. Bissell for the coordination of Technical Air Intelligence and that the extension of the research work to cover other phases of activities was something he couldn't give an opinion on since it was up to Adm. Schuirmann.
6. While this group of naval officers at first was definitely cool towards the idea of any participation they seemed to be more favorably inclined towards the end of their visit. It was apparent throughout the entire conversation that the question of Navy prerogatives constantly was in their minds. My impression that a wholehearted Joint effort will be difficult to achieve at the beginning.

S. F. GRONICH
Lt.Col., Inf.

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